

OPERATIONS GROUP

By Relocation

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B

C O N F I D E N T I A L 210708Z FEB 86 STAFF

CITE FBIS/GULF 10036 SECTION 01 OF 02

TO: PRIORITY FBIS.

RYBAT

SUBJECT: AGENDA FOR VISIT; PLANNING EXERCISE

REFS: A. 19 FEB TELECON
B. FBIS 21205
C. FBIS/GULF 10030

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1. FURTHER TO OUR TELECON, BELIEVE FBIS INTERESTS ARE BEST SERVED BY KEEPING YOUR VISIT WITHIN THE BUREAU AND EMBASSY. I WILL BE SETTING UP APPOINTMENTS FOR YOU WITH [REDACTED] THE AMBASSADOR, BUT NOT WITH THE INFORMATION MINISTER. YOUR VISIT WILL BE AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO GIVE THE AMBASSADOR AN INITIAL BRIEFING ON THE STATE OF PLANNING IN REGARD TO REF B AND TO DISCUSS WITH HIM HOW AND WHEN THE MATTER SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE GOB, PRESUMABLY THROUGH THE INFORMATION MINISTER. MY OWN FEELING IS THAT THE INFORMATION MINISTER MUST BE INFORMED OF A PLANNED CLOSURE WHILE IT IS STILL IN THE PLANNING STAGE, BUT HE CERTAINLY NEED NOT BE AMONG THE FIRST HAND-FULL OF PEOPLE TO KNOW. I THINK HE SHOULD BE INFORMED BEFORE WE INFORM OUR OWN EMPLOYEES, BUT NOT MUCH EARLIER.

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2. OF COURSE, IN YOUR POSITION IT WOULD LOOK ODD TO THE INFORMATION MINISTER FOR YOU TO COME TO TOWN WITHOUT MAKING A COURTESY CALL IF HE KNEW YOU WERE HERE. BUT THERE IS NO REASON FOR HIM TO KNOW OF THE VISIT, AND I WILL TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT HE DOESN'T GET WIND OF IT FROM ANOTHER EMBASSY CONTACT. IT WOULD BE AT LEAST EQUALLY EMBARRASSING FOR YOU TO PAY A COURTESY CALL, SAY NOTHING TO HIM ABOUT A POSSIBLE CLOSURE, AND THEN ANNOUNCE CLOSURE A COUPLE OF MONTHS LATER.

3. THERE SHOULD BE NO MENTION TO OUR EMPLOYEES OF PLANS OR

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DECISIONS ABOUT CLOSURE BEFORE OR DURING YOUR VISIT. YOU WOULD
BE SWAMPED WITH QUESTIONS AND ENDLESS DISCUSSIONS AT A TIME WHEN
PLANNING WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED TO PROVIDE ANSWERS.

4. HERE ARE SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS TO BE PASSED
TO C/OPS:

5. IF THE DECISION IS TO REDUCE GF TO AN ISLAMABAD-TYPE RELAY,
WE MUST RECOGNIZE IN ADVANCE THAT IT PROBABLY COULD NOT BE QUICKLY
OR EASILY REACTIVATED AS EVEN A SMALL BUREAU IN A CONTINGENCY
UNLESS STAFFED ENTIRELY WITH AMERICAN LINGUISTS. THE PROCESS OF
OBTAINING NO-OBJECTION CERTIFICATES, ETC., FOR TCN MONITORS IS
CUMBERSOME AND TIME-CONSUMING NOW; ONCE THE EXISTING MACHINERY
IS DEACTIVATED, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO START UP AGAIN.

6. I HAVE TRIED TO ENVISION AN ORDERLY SEQUENCE OF EVENTS TO
BE FOLLOWED IF YOU DECIDE TO CLOSE GF. AN OUTLINE MIGHT LOOK
SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

- A. D/FBIS BRIEFS AMBASSADOR LEIDEL DURING VISIT.
- B. C/GF BRIEFS DCM, ADMIN OFFICER, GSO AND BEGINS DISCUSSIONS
WITH THEM OF SUPPORT FOR TRAVEL, PACKING/SHIPPING, AND DISPOSAL OF
LEASED PROPERTY, FBIS PROPERTY, ETC. INFORM BUREAU STAFFERS.
- C. AMBASSADOR AND C/GF INFORM INFORMATION MINISTER.
- D. TRANSFERS OF COVERAGE AND PERSONNEL PLANNED AT BUREAU CHIEF
CONFERENCE AND FBIS/RBC COORDINATION MEETING. ESTABLISH A CUTOVER
DATE FOR COVERAGE TRANSFER.
- E. INFORM BUREAU'S FOREIGN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES OF THE DECISION
TO CLOSE; "RECRUIT" TRANSFEREES REQUIRED BY OTHER BUREAU'S.
- F. HQS PROVIDES TDY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE TO GF.
- G. PROCEED WITH COVERAGE TRANSFER AND BEGIN THE PLANNED
DISPERSAL/DISPOSAL OF ASSETS. ONCE OPERATIONS HAVE CEASED, TWO
EDITORS DEPART, LEAVING CHIEF, DEPUTY CHIEF, ENGINEER, AND TDY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO CLOSE OUT THE BUREAU.

7. AFTER THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN BRIEFED, DETAILED DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE DCM, ADMIN OFFICER, AND GSO SHOULD BEGIN AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE, CERTAINLY BEFORE WE ANNOUNCE THE MOVE TO OUR OWN EMP-
LOYEES. A CLOSURE IN THE SUMMER WILL PUT A SPECIAL STRAIN ON THE
EMBASSY'S SUPPORT FACILITIES TO ARRANGE PACKING, SHIPPING, AND

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TRAVEL FOR ALL [REDACTED] AT THE HEIGHT OF THE SUMMER ROTATION
SEASON FOR THE EMBASSY'S AMERICAN STAFF. THIS SUMMER WILL BE
ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT SINCE THE ADMIN OFFICER AND GSO ARE AMONG
THOSE WHO WILL BE LEAVING. THESE DIFFICULTIES COULD PERHAPS
AFFECT A DECISION ON TIMING OR THE TIMING AND NUMBER OF PEOPLE
REQUIRED ON TDY TO PROVIDE THE BUREAU WITH ITS OWN ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT. WITHOUT DETAILS OF HOW MANY MONITORS WILL BE RETAINED/
TRANSFERRED OR WHERE THEY WILL GO, AND HOW MANY WILL BE RELEASED,
I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DEVELOP A PRECISE ESTIMATE OF TRAVEL/SHIP-
PING COSTS AS A RESULT OF CLOSURE. I SUGGEST A FIGURE OF [REDACTED]
FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.

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10. AT SOME POINT, CERTAINLY AFTER A CLOSURE DECISION IS ANNOUNCED TO THE FOREIGN NATIONAL STAFF, I WILL NEED ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AT THE BUREAU TO HELP WITH DETAILS OF THE CLOSEOUT. AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE EMBASSY'S ADMIN AND GSO WILL BE IN TRANSITION AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, PROBABLY REDUCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR SUPPORT. AT THAT POINT, I EXPECT THE

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NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE BUREAU COULD GET ALONG WITH THE COMMO SUPERVISOR FILLING IN AS ADMIN ASST, BUT SHE WOULD NOT BE CAPABLE OF HANDLING ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY AND IS VERY LIKELY TO BE NEEDED AS AN ORDINARY COMMO OPERATOR MOST OF THE TIME. TDY OF AN "ADMINISTRATIVE GENERALIST" WHO CAN HELP WITH B&F, PERSONNEL AND LOGISTICS WILL BE ESSENTIAL DURING THE CLOSEOUT PHASE.

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11. [] IS DUE TO ROTATE IN LATE JULY, AND [] IN AUGUST. IF YOU DECIDE TO CLOSE, I ASSUME YOU WILL WANT THEM TO EXTEND UNTIL OPERATIONS CEASE. DON COULD ALSO BE USEFUL IN THE POST-OPERATIONS PHASE OF CLOSEOUT, AND THE EXPERIENCE MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR HIM. IN ANY CASE, A DECISION IS NEEDED ON THEM FAIRLY SOON SO THAT THEY CAN BE ADVISED TO ADJUST THEIR DEPARTURE PLANS ACCORDINGLY. IF DON IS TO BE EXTENDED, I KNOW HE WOULD LIKE CONFIRMATION THAT THE NEW TRAINING OFFICER POSITION WILL BE HELD OPEN FOR HIS RETURN.

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12. DECL OADR DRV COL 14-82 BY []. ALL CONFIDENTIAL.
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